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# Catholic Priest Discusses the Marian Year

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# *The University of Dayton*

## *News Release*

### CATHOLIC PRIEST DISCUSSES THE MARIAN YEAR

DAYTON, Ohio, February 4, 1988--The Rev. Johann Roten, S.M., the new director of the International Marian Research Institute, will discuss "The Marian Year" on Tuesday, Feb. 22 in the concluding program of the Catholic Tradition Today Lecture Series at the University of Dayton. Sponsored by UD's Department of Religious Studies and open to the public, the talk will be given at 8 p.m. in room 310 of the Kennedy Union on campus.

In his talk, Roten will explore the main themes of Pope John Paul II's recent letter on the Blessed Virgin Mary, Redemptoris Mater, the significance of the Marian Year and questions that Christians need to ask as they seek to provide an appropriate place for Mary in the Catholic Church.

A native of Switzerland, Roten recently served for 13 years as president of the Ecole Normale, a college for teachers in Sion, Switzerland. He holds a degree in philosophy and a doctorate in theology and has conducted extensive research on the thought and the Marian writings of the Swiss theologian, Hans Urs von Balthasar. Roten assumed directorship of the International Marian Research Institute on January 15.

The International Marian Research Institute was founded at the Marian Library of the University of Dayton in 1975 by Father Theodore Koehler, S.M. The institute promotes the study of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the spirit of directives given at Vatican II and in Paul VI's Marialis cultus. Affiliated with the Marianum in Rome, the institute is authorized to grant licentiate and doctorate degrees in theology with specialization in Mariology.

Call UD's Department of Religious Studies at 229-4321 for more information.